

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0042] as follows:

[0042] In step 205, a representative sample of rodents (for example, 10-15 adult male rodents) of the same species is trapped or collected at the contaminated site (for example, a chemically-contaminated site). During the course of the field effort (for example, two weeks), an abundance of population data (for example, species diversity, population size, sex ratio, age distribution, etc.) is collected. This information will preferably be used to corroborate the findings of the sperm parameter analysis conducted for a contaminated site relative to a matched reference (non-contaminated) location.

Please amend paragraph [0051] as follows:

[0051] A further conclusion regarding humans may be drawn by realizing that if the small rodents are not demonstrating reproductive impacts, it can be reasoned that other terrestrial receptors (for example, humans or other ecologically critical [[specifies]] species) are also not experiencing compromised reproductive success. These other species (for example, humans) generally have much less direct contact with the ground and forage over distances that far exceed the contaminated land parcels. Finding that reproductive health impacts are absent in the chronically exposed animals (that is, the rodents) provides great confidence that a soldier, for example, digging foxholes during a long deployment, will not develop a reproductive health effect. Confidence in results is also increased because the rodents may easily reflect 100 [[generators]] generations of exposure, for example.